

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, with regard to the drawings, Applicant has included herewith marked-up copies of Figures 4, 7, 8 and 10, with the proposed changes in red. Approval of the proposed drawing changes is respectfully requested. With regard to the drawing objection to Figure 1, Applicant has not amended this figure at this time because Applicant believes that this figure shows that the MCU 11 can receive an output from the position detection (PD) circuit 7 through the address-data bus 15.

With regard to the objections to the Disclosure and the Abstract, due to some computer-related problems, Applicant was unable to amend the Abstract and Disclosure as suggested by the Examiner. However, in the near future, Applicant will file a Supplemental Amendment addressing the objections to the Abstract and Disclosure.

Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 10 and 12-14 stand objected to for informalities. Applicant has amended the claims to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner. Withdrawal of this objection to the claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 10 and 12-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

(1) In Claims 1 and 8 (line 9 in each), the term “position signal” has been replaced by the term “servo signal,” whose antecedent basis can be found in line 4 of Claims 1 and 8.

(2) In Claims 1 and 8 (line 10 of each), antecedent basis for the term “said recording face” can be found in line 3 of Claims 1 and 8.

(3) Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to clarify that the servo gate signal being synchronized is the servo gate signal “of said selected head to which switching is directed” and not to the current head.(4) The term “output signal” of Claim 1 (line 15) and Claim 8 (line 16) simply refers to the combination of signals (including the servo signal) output from the head.

(5) Lines 19-22 of Claim 1 refer to a process such as that depicted by Figure 5 in which for example, a switch is made from head 1 to head 2. In this example, it is determined that a switch can be made to head 1 in sector 3 (the time for reading the servo signal). Next, the servo gate signal is synchronized with the box shown in sector 3 by temporarily changing the period for the servo gate signal to $T_s + T_d$ (so that the fourth box shown in the head 1 line matches up with the fourth box in the servo gate line).

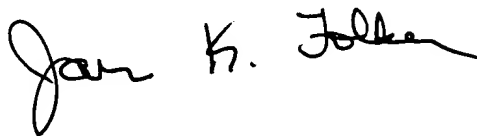
(6) The term discrepancy time is defined in the specification on page 14, lines 12-18.

(7) The term “detection time” is defined as the time at which a servo signal can be detected, such as after reading the servo gate signal.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claimed invention. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James K. Folker", with a stylized, flowing script.

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